

## **POOR LEGIBILITY**

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MORTALITY PATTERNS OF WORKERS  
in the  
NIAGARA PLANT

by

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PREFACE

This report is a summary of the analysis done under contract for the Niagara Plant of Hooker Chemical Company. The priorities and objectives of this study were reviewed by a committee chaired by Mr. G. F. Schuur and consisting of representatives from both union and management prior to initiation of the study. The committee also consisted of Dr. Harry Sultz and Dr. Ralph Buncher. I would like to thank the members of this committee for their continuing support throughout the duration of this research project and for their response to the many requests for logistical support.

Specifically, I would like to thank Mr. Fred Olotka, Neil Zayes, John Fiori, Charles Walker, Ral Johnson, Joe Reale and Jim Woodhouse for their effort in the development of the job groupings; Dr. Terry Briggs for providing the information relative to employee exposure to various chemicals. In addition, Dr. Zavon and Kathy Brown were helpful in supplying information that was needed for the study when it was necessary to deal at the corporate level.

The accomplishment of this project entailed the time of several staff personnel. Specifically, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Mrs. Nancy Haberman, key punch operator; Mr. Steve Sefcik, computer programmer; Mrs. Diana McDivitt and Mrs. Dianne Falkel, clerical personnel, and Betty Valentine, secretary. I would also like to acknowledge Ms. Marian Reid who reviewed and coded all of the death certificates.

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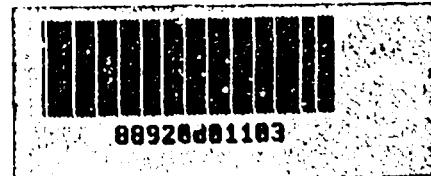
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Subject: Occidental Chemical Corporation ("OxyChem")  
Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA")  
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Dear Sir:

Attached find one original and two copies of the following document:

- Mortality Patterns of Workers in the Niagara Plant

This document is being submitted pursuant to the TSCA Section 8(e) Compliance Audit Program ("CAP") and a CAP agreement executed between OxyChem and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (Agreement No. 8ECAP-0063).

The identity of the chemical(s) tested in the study listed above are as follows:

- Mixtures of chemical substances.

The adverse effect(s) noted in the study listed above are as follows:

- A death certificate-based study with no primary based data collection from employees: therefore, no strict control for smoking and other possible confounding factors. As an SMR study, however, it followed most methodological standards. However in spite of study inefficiencies, the following information was found: Statistically significant excess of stomach cancer and respiratory tract cancer in the male cohort. Statistically significant excess of malignancies in certain workers. Excess respiratory tract cancer in certain workers. Excess stomach cancer in certain workers.

If you have any questions on the information contained herein, please contact me at (716) 286-3358.

Sincerely,

Ladd W. Smith  
Director, Product Stewardship



Occidental Chemical Corporation

Corporate Environmental Affairs

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Mr. Terry O'Brien  
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Re: TSCA §8(e) Submission  
Mortality of Workers at the Niagara Plant (Document Control Number SEHQ-0292-2461)

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

Enclosed find pages 44, 45 and 80 of the referenced document. If you need any additional information, please contact me at (716) 286-3108.

Sincerely,

*R. M. Givonetti*

Raymond M. Givonetti  
Manager - Product Stewardship



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